

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 WELLIN 01667 310507Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 NEA-14 IO-14 TRSE-00 EB-11 AID-20

IGA-02 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /196 W
----- 096990

R 310445Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8122

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

S E C R E T WELLINGTON 1667

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO: RGT POLICY STATEMENT

REFS: A) BANGKOK 8534 B) BANGKOK 8618 C) STATE 112184

1. DURING MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF DEFENCE ROBERTSON
MAY 30, AMBASSADOR AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR RAISED INCIDENT
OF THAI POLICY STATEMENT MAY 24 PWV MEETING AND MADE THE
POINTS OUTLINED IN REFTELS B AND C. ROBERTSON HAD JUST
RECEIVED CABLE FROM GNZ BANGKOK REP WHO HAD REPORTED
SITUATION MAINLY ALONG LINES OF REFTEL B. HE HAD DIS-
CUSSED THE STATEMENT WITH AN RTG OFFICIAL (UNIDENTIFIED)
WHO HAD TOLD GNZ REP TO DISREGARD STATEMENT SINCE IT NOT
OFFICIAL RTG POLICY. HOWEVER, THIS OFFICIAL WENT ON TO
SAY THAT PWG MEMBER HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT
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PAGE 02 WELLIN 01667 310507Z

SEATO EXISTS BECAUSE OF COMMON BENEFIT TO ALL MEMBERS

AND THAT IF MOVES ARE MADE TO REDUCE SEATO'S EFFECTIVENESS THAILAND WOULD OFFER NO RESISTANCE. THIS ACCORDING TO ROBERTSON, HAS CAUSED SOME RAISING OF EYEBROWS IN LIGHT OF THAI REQUEST TO DISREGARD STATEMENT. GNZ REP, ACCORDING TO ROBERTSON, HAD REPORTED HIS IMPRESSION THAT THAI STATEMENT HAD BEEN MADE TO SMOKE OUT US DEFENSE INTENTIONS TOWARD THAILAND BOTH WITHIN SEATO AND BILATERAL.

2. WITH REGARD TO BUDGET WE MADE THE POINT THAT US IS CONCERNED THAT CURRENT PROJECTED BUDGET LEVELS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT AND WE STRONGLY SUPPORT A BUDGET LEVEL OF \$1.3 MILLION FOR FY 75 AND MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY THAT AN INFLATION FACTOR (REFTEL C) MIGHT BE WORKED INTO COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS. ROBERTSON SAID IN HIS OPINION THE BUDGET CONTROVERSY IS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE AND HE PREDICTED A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME.

3. ROBERTSON STATED THAT INCIDENT WOULD NOT RPT NOT TOUCH OFF GNZ ACTION TO DOWNGRADE ITS PRESENT SEATO PARTICIPATION.
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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005